

Welcome to the Legislative Update for July 16, 2009

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep Arizona's seniors and advocates for aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight Congressional bills or happenings affecting older Americans. This information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and to give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. *The Legislative Update is non-partisan in nature.* Thank you for your interest!

Please note: the next issue of the Legislative Update will be distributed during the last week of July.

GENERAL OVERVIEW:

2010 Budget:

No 2010 budget to date. On Monday afternoon, the House and Senate reconvened but no significant developments resulted to report. The Legislature is adjourned until Monday, July 20th.

The general fund shortfall is estimated at more than \$2 billion.

To review the monthly fiscal reports provided by the JLBC, go to:

<http://www.azleg.gov/jlbc/monthlyhighlights.htm>

Legislation:

To help track legislation during the Third Special Session, the Council has created the 3rd Special Session List. You can access this list at below.

3rd Special Session List:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=471&listid=16365&print=true>

Monday, July 13th was the last day for Governor Brewer to sign or veto bills from the Regular Session of the 49th Legislature. A link to the Final Summary of Enactment posted on the Governors website is provided here:

http://www.governor.state.az.us/dms/upload/PR_071309_Final%20Summary%20of%20Enactments_v2.pdf

Here are a few of the bills from the Councils FULL List passed and signed into law *since the last Legislative Update*:

HB2091: Charitable Organizations; Solicitations; Disclosure

HB2283: Certified Nursing Assistants; Pilot Program

HB2344: Vulnerable Adults; Financial Exploitation

HB2399: Automated External Defibrillators

HB2616: Living Wills; Health Care Directives

HB2622: Dependent Children; Relatives; Disclosure

S1400: Dental Hygienists; Public Agencies

You can check the final report of all bills tracked by the Council on Aging during the last Session at the **FULL LIST** *web report link*:

<http://www.azcapitolreports.com/webreport.cfm?webreport=364&listid=13720&print=true>

FYI

We intend to continue providing the Legislative Update through the Third Special Session tracking the state 2010 budget process. Once the special session has ended, the Legislative Update will be provided monthly with a federal focus.

During the Third Special Session: You can still contact your

policymakers. If you have a particular perspective about budget proposals being considered, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

Governor's Office of Constituent Services at 602-542-4331 or toll-free at 800-253-0883

Or you may contact **the legislator from your area**. If you do not know how to reach your local legislator, start at the homepage under *How do I find My Legislators* or follow the instructions provided at both the Senate and House Member links at the website.

Arizona State Legislature website: <http://www.azleg.gov/>

FEDERAL LEGISLATION:

H.R.3043

Medicare Adult Day Care Services Act of 2009

The bill was introduced on 6/25/2009 by Representative Linda T. Sanchez (CA-39); the six cosponsors include: Representative Charles A. Gonzalez (TX-20), Representative Sheila Jackson-Lee (TX-18), Representative James P. McGovern (MA-3), Representative Ron Paul (TX-14), Representative Donald M. Payne (NJ-10), and Representative Albio Sires (NJ-13)

The purpose of H.R. 3043 is to amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for coverage of substitute adult day care services under the Medicare Program.

On June 25, 2009, the bill was referred to the Committee on Ways and Means, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

For more information specific to this bill, go to the Thomas website <http://thomas.loc.gov/> and enter the bill number under *Search Bill Summary & Status*.

Other News:

From the Kaiser Family Foundation:

Side by Side Comparison of Major Health Care Reform Proposals

<http://www.kff.org/healthreform/sidebyside.cfm>

From the National Association of State Units on Aging:

The House Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure Chairman James L. Oberstar released a white paper on June 18th outlining plans for the new surface transportation authorization bill being drafted. The authorization bill will replace the current SAFETEA-LU which is due to expire on September 30. The Surface Transportation Act of 2009 redefines the federal role and restructures the federal surface transportation by either consolidating or terminating more than 75 programs. The consolidation creates Highway and

Transit funding, each of which have four program categories. Within transit funding, one of the program categories is providing mobility and access to transit-dependent individuals. Many of the current programs that assist aging Americans and individuals with disabilities are slated for consolidation into the access and mobility program or termination.

Programs slated for consolidation into the mobility and access program include: ADA Project Action, Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities Program Section 5310, Job Access and Reverse Commute Program, and National Technical Assistance Center for Senior Transportation. Programs slated for termination include: the Elderly Individuals and Individuals with Disabilities pilot program and Medical Transportation Demonstration Grants.

More information is available at: <http://transportation.house.gov/>

From the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services:

Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius recently released the second in a series of health care success story reports that document innovative programs and initiatives that can serve as models for a reformed American health care system.

The press release can be found at:

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/07/20090715a.html>

Secretary Sebelius also announced the goal to create Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs) in every state. This goal is set in accordance with President Obama's proclamation of the Year of Community Living. This funding opportunity will expand ADRCs across the country. The new funding will build on and expand the existing pilots and ensure that every state can offer this program and its services to their citizens.

For more information, visit:

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/06/20090622b.html>

Also: States eligible to receive grant funding for H1N1, Seasonal Flu Preparedness Efforts

<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2009pres/07/20090710a.html>

Contact Your Congressional Member: If you are interested in Congressional bills or wish to share your thoughts or concerns with your federal representatives, find out how to contact your congressional representatives by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for members of the House or <http://www.senate.gov/> for members of the Senate.

INFORMATION & RESOURCES:

WHAT: City of Sedona Senior Resource Fair

WHEN: Monday, October 12, 2009, 9 am 2 pm, Yavapai College, Sedona Campus, SR89A and Cultural Park Place

For more information contact: Anne Leap at ALeap@SedonaAZ.gov

If you would like to submit an educational or public service event for consideration, you can do so by sending an email with the description to: gaca@az.gov.

Thank you and have a great week!

~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging